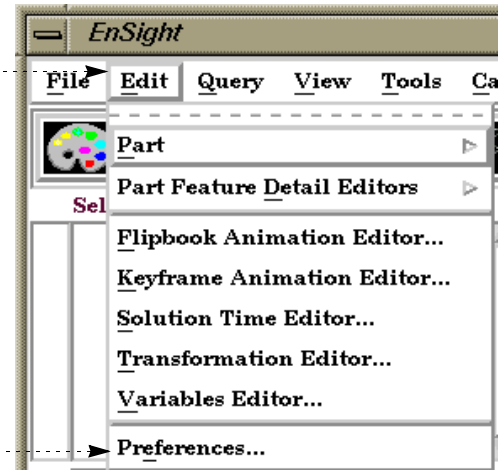
INTRODUCTION

Nearly every operation and function in EnSight is initially set to a default value. Preferences allow you to set these initial values as well as set some default behaviors such as which time step to initially load for transient data, how the mouse buttons are defined, etc. When EnSight starts, the preference settings are read from the $ENSIGHT_HOME/site_preferences directory and then overlaid by the preference settings found in your .ensight7 directory.

BASIC OPERATION

1. Bring up the Preferences dialog by selecting Preferences from the Edit pull-down menu.



The following preference categories are available in the Preferences dialog (and will be explained below):

To Set Annotation Preferences:
To Set Color Palette Defaults:
To Set Command Line Preferences:
To Set Data Preferences:
To Set General User Interface Preferences:
To Set Image Saving and Printing Preferences:
To Set Interactive Probe Query Preferences:
To Set Mouse and Keyboard Preferences:
To Set Part Preferences:
To Set Performance Preferences:
To Set Plotter Preferences:
To Set Query Preferences:
To Set User Defined Input Preferences:
To Set Variable Preferences:
To Set View Preferences:
To Set Viewports Preferences:

To Set Annotation Preferences:

1. Select Annotation from the Preference Categories list.

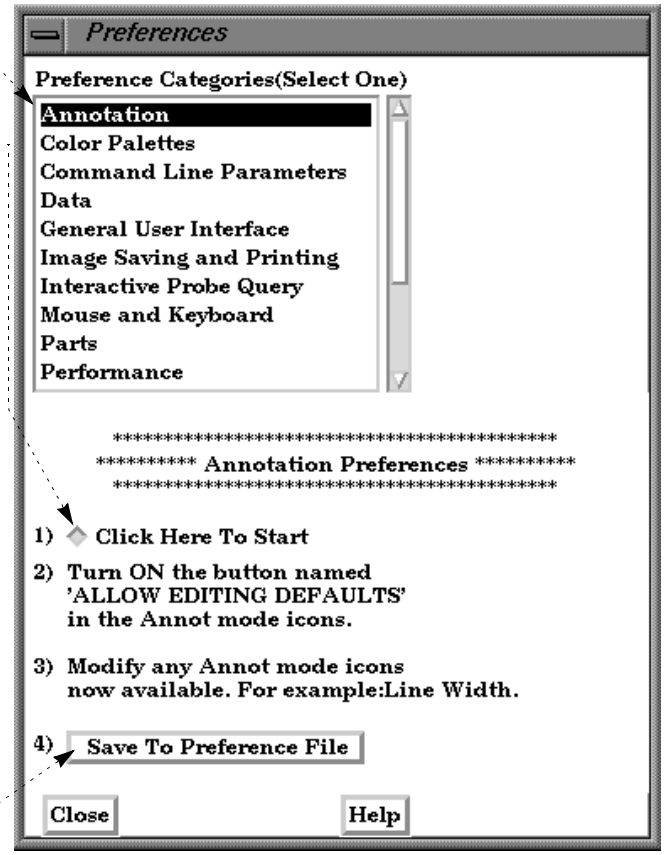
2. Click the "Click Here To Start" button. This will bring up Annotation mode in EnSight and deselect any annotations.

3. Since Annotation mode normally shows you icons only for the selected annotations, click on the "Allow Editing Defaults" button to get full access to all attributes.

4. Set any attribute, for example line widths to 2 Pixels, text to left justification, etc.

5. You can also define any annotation (text, line, and logo) and have it be part of your preferences. Legends can also be part of the preferences, but these preferences are independent of the variable tied to the legend, i.e., the preference file keeps attributes for the first, second, third, etc. visible legends.

6. Click Save to Preference File to save the default annotation attributes. If you have defined any annotations, a pop-up will ask you if you want to save this annotation as part of your default or if your intent is to save the default attributes only.



To Set Color Palette Defaults:

1. Select Color Palettes from the Preference Categories list.

2. Choose to color by RGB or Textures.

3. Toggle on if you want the color legend to automatically appear when you color a part by a variable.

4. Toggle on if you want color legends to be replaced when the current legend is no longer in use (i.e., no parts are colored by the variable) and a new variable is in use.

5. Toggle on if you wish the legend ranges to be updated when time is changed, thus based on values of variable at the current time.

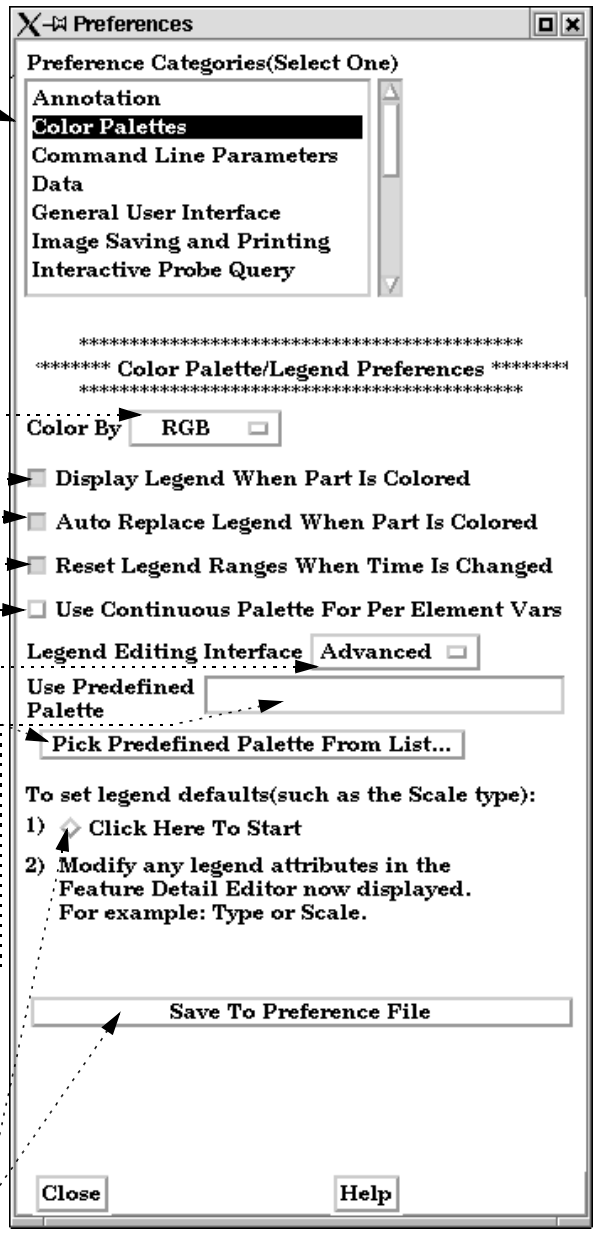
6. Set the default legend for per element variables to be constant over the element or to vary continuously over the element (averages with neighbors).

7. Set the default legend editing interface to simple or advanced

8. If you have predefined color palettes, you can set one of them to be the default by entering the name or picking one from the list of defined palettes.

9. To set default legend attributes, click here. This will bring up the detail editor for color legends with no legends selected. In the feature detail editor, set the desired attributes such as linear/logarithmic scale, and continuous or banded type.

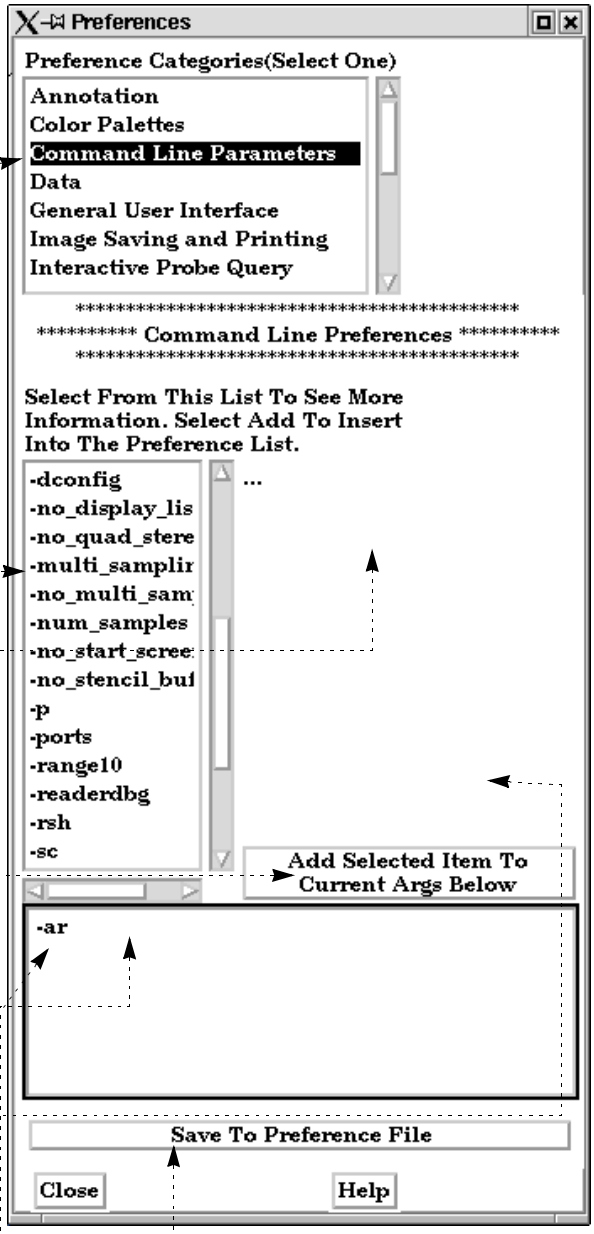
10. Click here to save the preferences.



To Set Command Line Preferences:

A number of command line parameters exist for EnSight. These parameters can be set in your preference file so you do not have to specify them on the start line each time you use EnSight.

1. Select Command Line Parameters from the Preference Categories list.



2. Select a command line argument.

An explanation of the selected argument will appear in the dialog.

3. Click here to add the parameter.

It will be placed in the edit area.

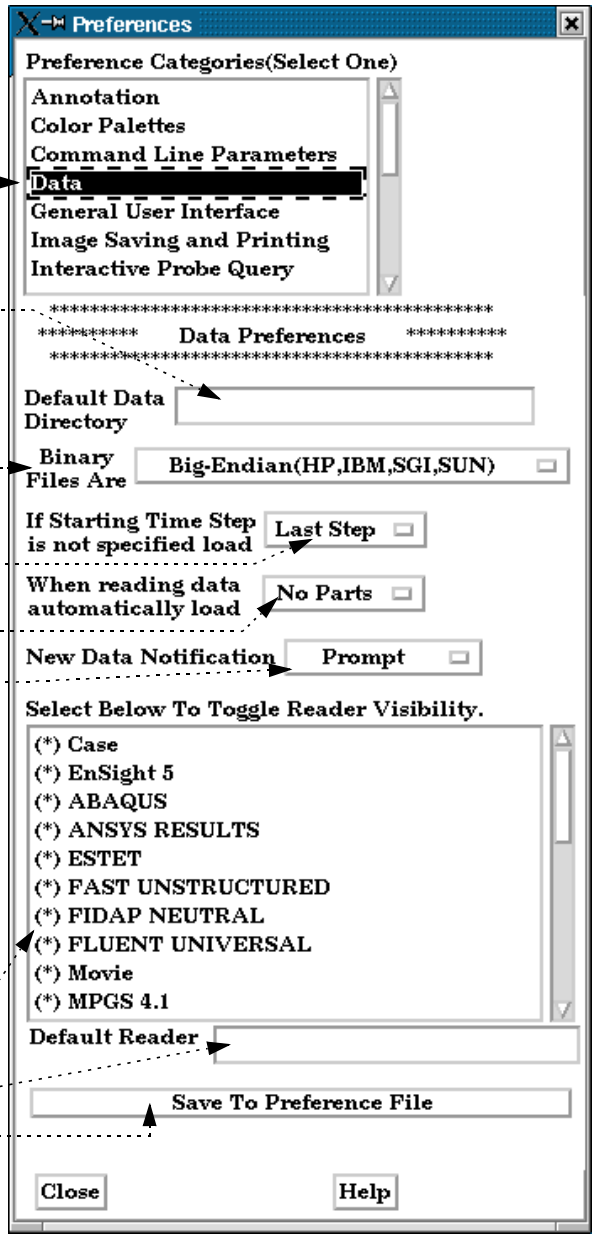
If you make a mistake and add an unwanted parameter, simply highlight it in the feedback area and delete it.

If additional information is required, a note will be posted here to help you.

4. If you need to add additional information, add any text needed into the edit area.

5. Click here to save the preferences.

To Set Data Preferences:



1. Select Data from the Preference Categories list.

2. If you want to specify a path to look for data, specify it here.

3. You can specify the default binary file type here.

4. When transient data is loaded into EnSight you can choose to specify a beginning time step. If you do not specify a beginning time step, either the first or the last time step will be loaded depending on this preference.

5. After successfully reading data into EnSight you are presented (for most data formats) with a part loader if this attribute is set to No Parts. If set to any other attribute the parts specified will be loaded and displayed without intervention from the part loader.

Concerns periodic model updating while EnSight is running - Please Contact CEI Support regarding this option.

6. The readers shown with a * will show up in the pull-down for data format in the EnSight data reader dialog. You can take readers off of the pull-down list if you toggle the * off (select the reader in the list).

7. You can specify the default data type by typing in the exact name of the reader.

8. Click here to save the preferences.

To Set General User Interface Preferences:

1. Select General User Interface from the Preference Categories list.

2. Toggle to show tool tips (balloon help).

3. Toggle to show an extra dialog with a long part list.

4. Toggle to show Frame mode as an available mode.

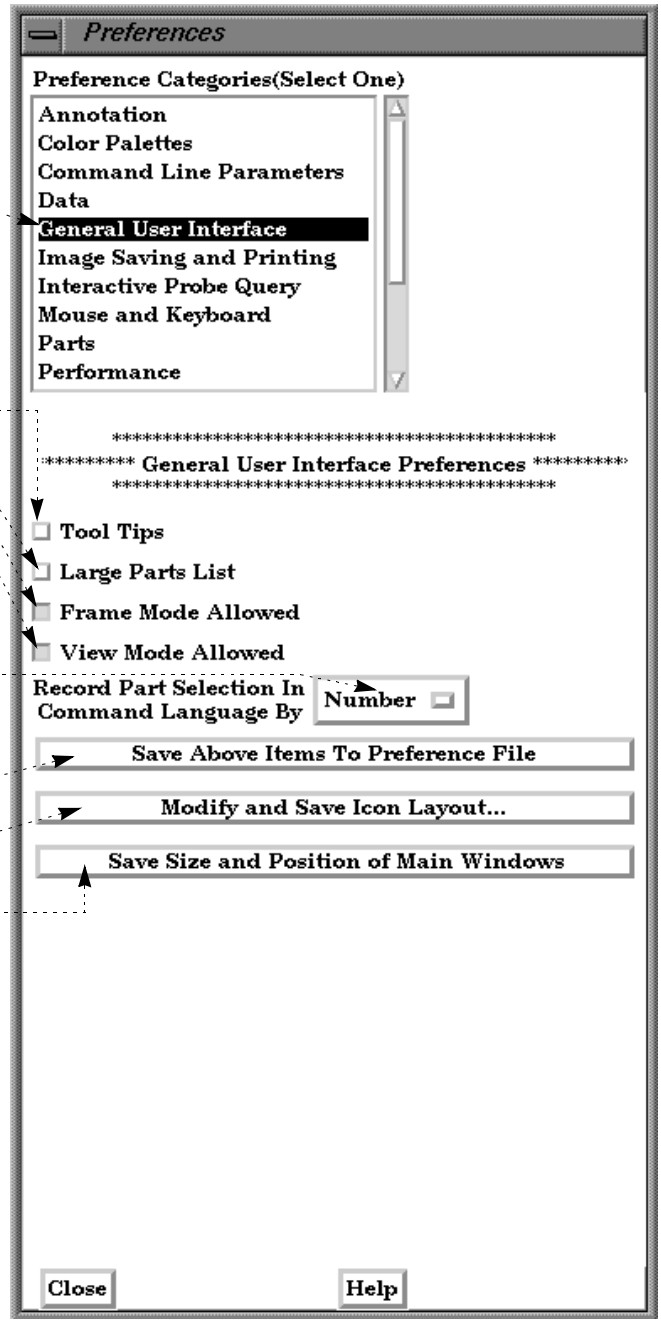
5. Toggle to show View mode as an available mode.

6. EnSight's command language records part names or numbers according to this choice. Recording by name is more portable for using the command language with a different dataset since the part numbers do not need to match up. However, recording by name produces slightly larger command files.

7. Click Save Above Items To Preference File to save the GUI items to your preference file.

8. To Modify EnSight's Icon Layout, click here.

9. To save as a preference the location and size of EnSight's windows, click here.



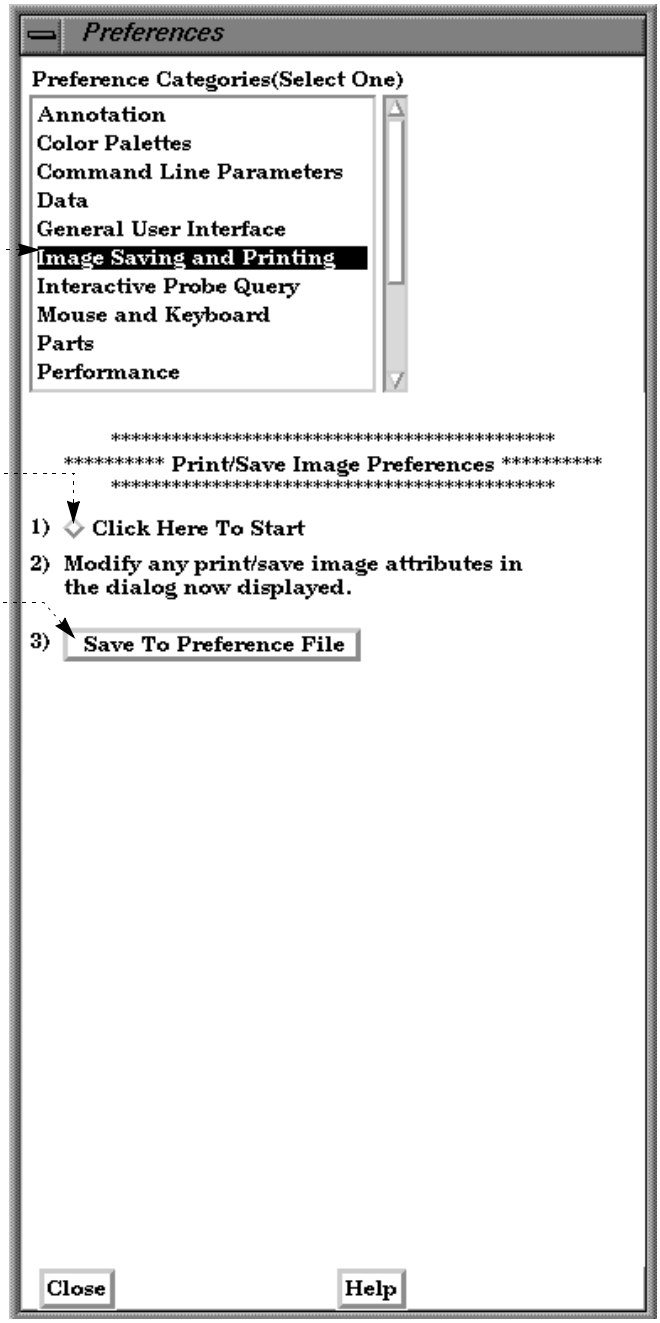
To Set Image Saving and Printing Preferences:

1. Select Image Saving and Printing from the Preference Categories list.

2. Click the "Click Here To Start" button. This will bring up the Print/Save Image dialog.

3. Modify the attributes you want for your preference such as the image format.

4. Click here to save the preferences.



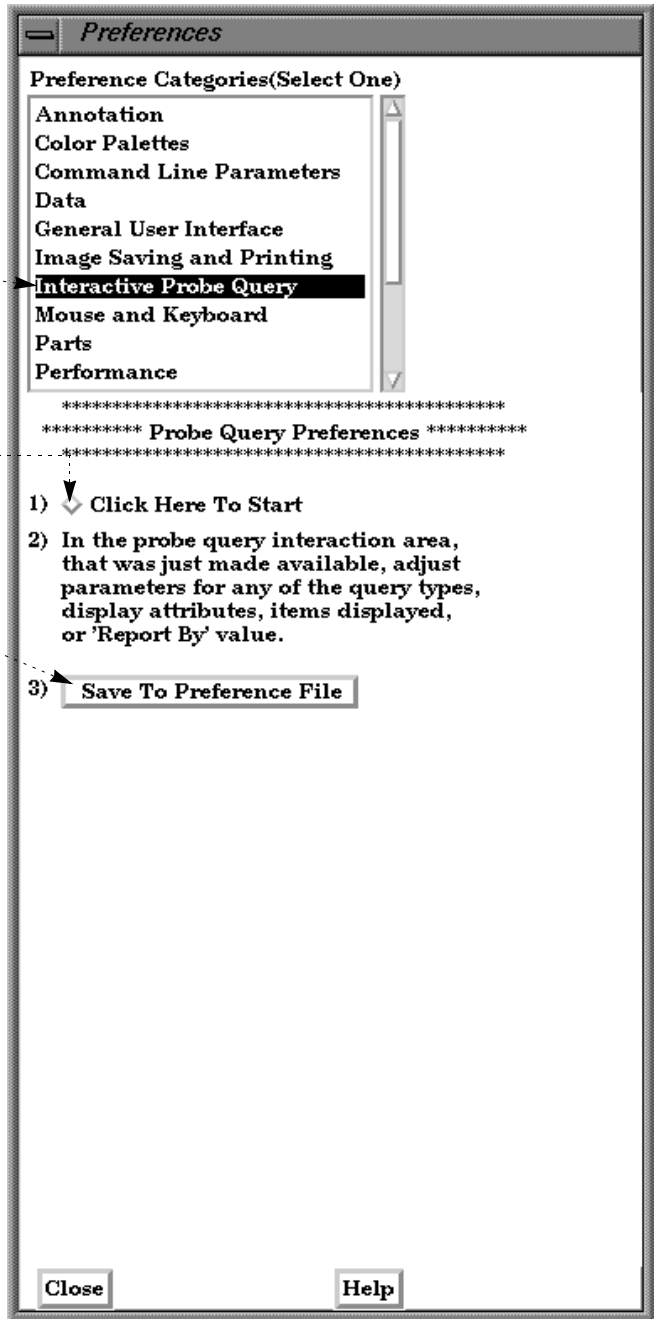
To Set Interactive Probe Query Preferences:

1. Select Interactive Probe Query from the Preference Categories list.

2. Click the "Click Here To Start" button. This will bring up Interactive Probe quick interaction area.

3. Modify the attributes you want for your preference such as Report By, and # Items Displayed.

4. Click here to save the preferences.



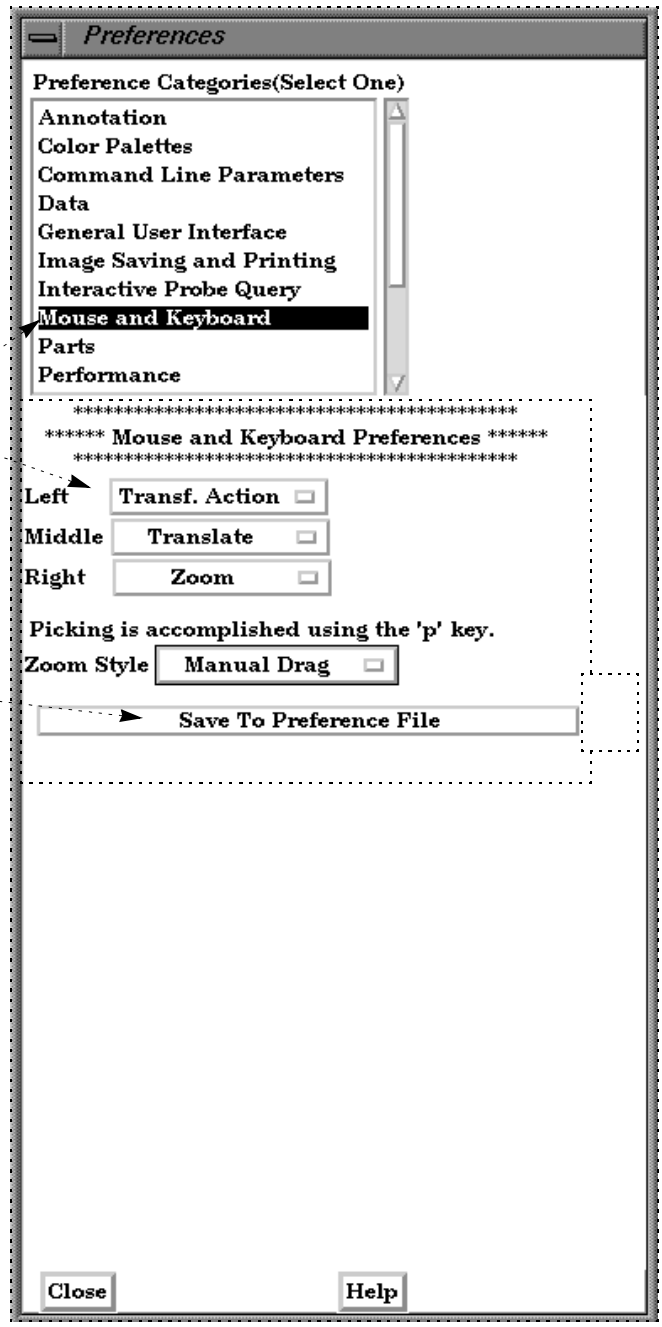
To Set Mouse and Keyboard Preferences:

This preference allows you to modify the behavior of the mouse buttons used during EnSight transformations. Each mouse button can be set up to be one of Transf. Action (meaning that the button is set to the action as shown in transformation icons at the bottom of the EnSight dialog - set to rotate by default), Rotate, Translate, Zoom, or Pick. At least one button must be set to Transf. Action. If no mouse button is set Pick, the "p" keyboard key will be used for this function.

1. Select Mouse and Keyboard from the Preference Categories list.

2. Modify the preference for each of the mouse buttons.

3. Click here to save the preferences.



To Set Part Preferences:

1. Select Parts from the Preferences Categories list.

2. Click the "Click Here To Start" button. This will bring up Part mode in EnSight and deselect any parts (so you can edit defaults).

3. Modify any part attribute such as line thickness.

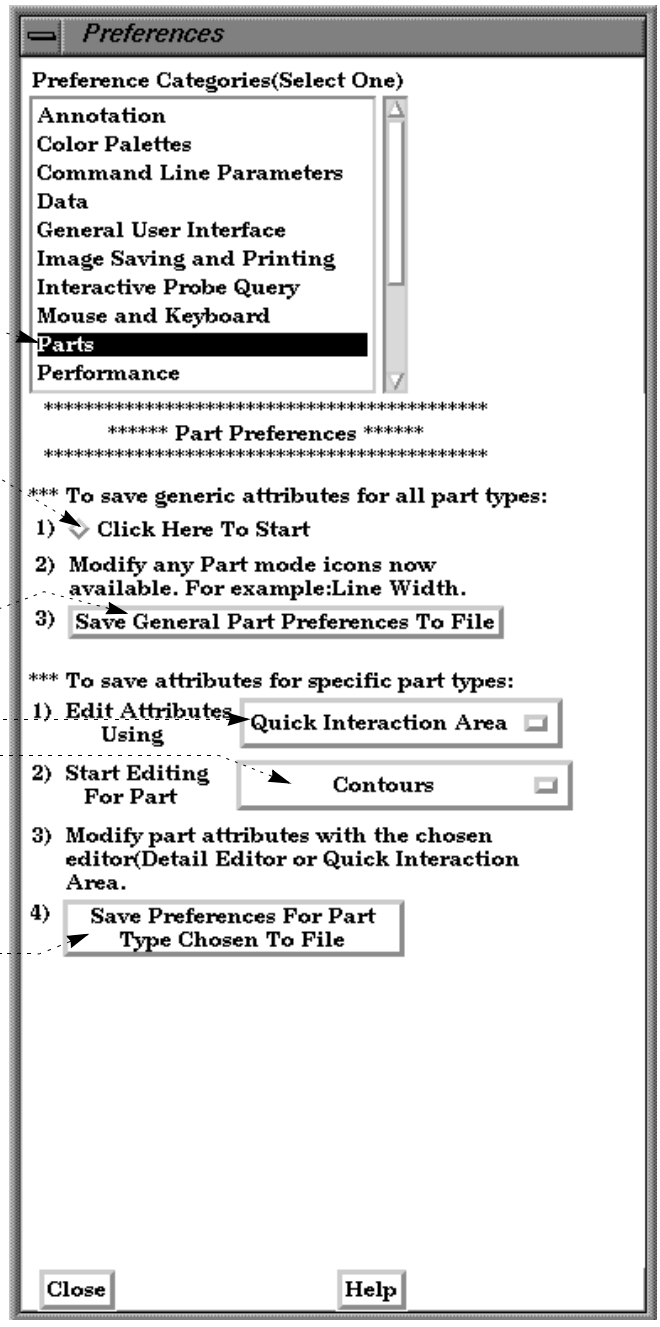
4. Click Save General Part Preferences To File to save the default visual attributes for parts.

5. If you want to modify creation attributes for created parts, specify which dialog you want to use.

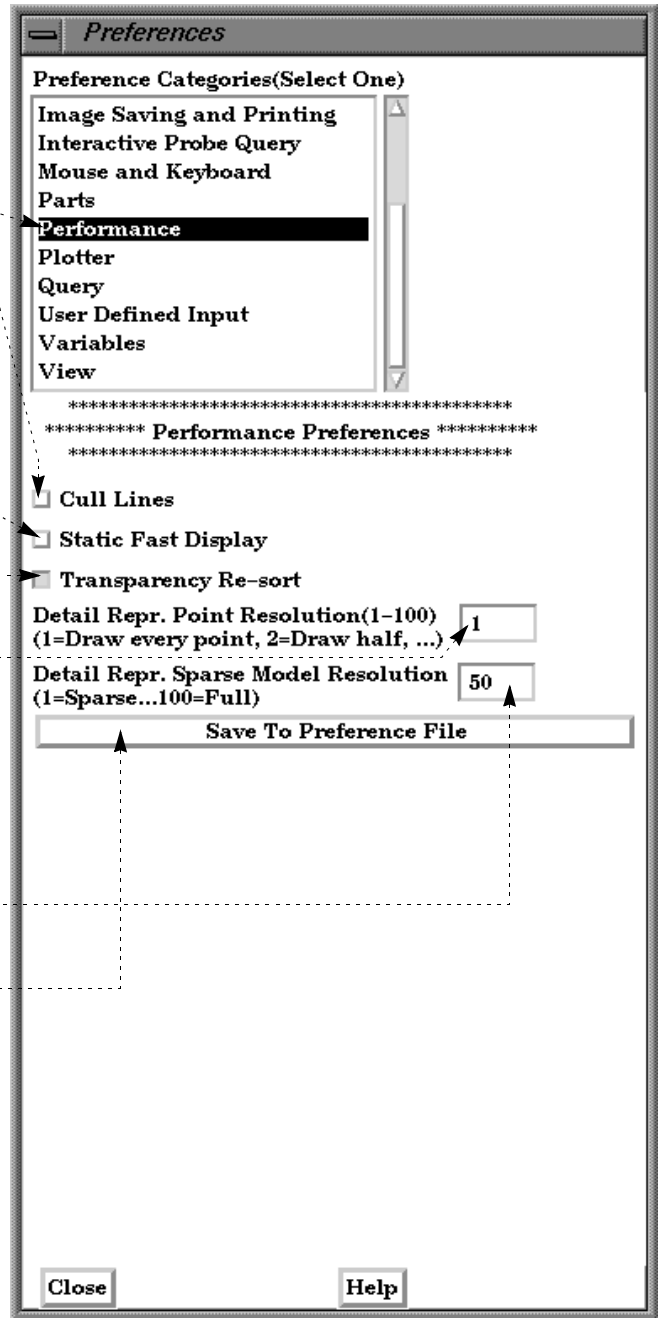
6. Set the part type.

7. Modify the attribute. For example, set subcontours to 3 for contour parts.

8. Click Save Preferences For Part Type Chosen To File to save the attributes for the part type edited.



To Set Performance Preferences:



1. Select Performance from the Preferences Categories list.

2. To cull duplicate lines in line drawing mode, set this toggle.

3. To set fast mode to static, toggle on. The default is off meaning that the fast display (i.e., bounding box) is only active during transformations such that the image returns back to full graphics display when the mouse buttons are not depressed. In static mode the fast representation is continuously displayed.

4. To sort the geometry during transformations, thereby creating correct transparent image at all times (but at a performance cost), set this toggle on. To delay the re-sort until the mouse is released, set this toggle off (better performance with often acceptable enough image)

4. If using point display for fast display mode, set the point resolution here.

5. If using sparse geometry display for fast display mode, set the percent of the model to show here.

(Only used if immediate mode is being used.)

6. Click here to save the preferences.

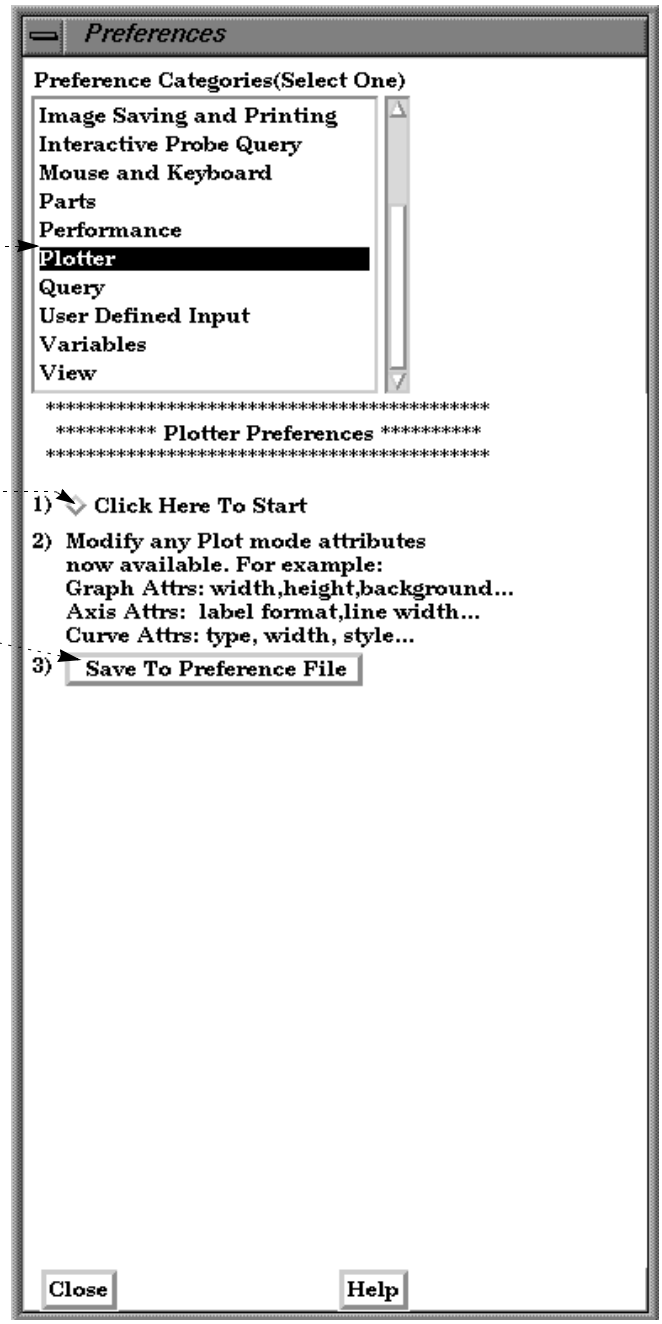
To Set Plotter Preferences:

1. Select Plotter from the Preferences Categories list.

2. Click the "Click Here To Start" button. This will bring up Plotter mode in EnSight and deselect any plots and curves.

3. Set any attribute, for example line width for curves, tick marks for axis, etc.

4. Click here to save the preferences.



To Set Query Preferences:

1. Select Query from the Preferences Categories list.

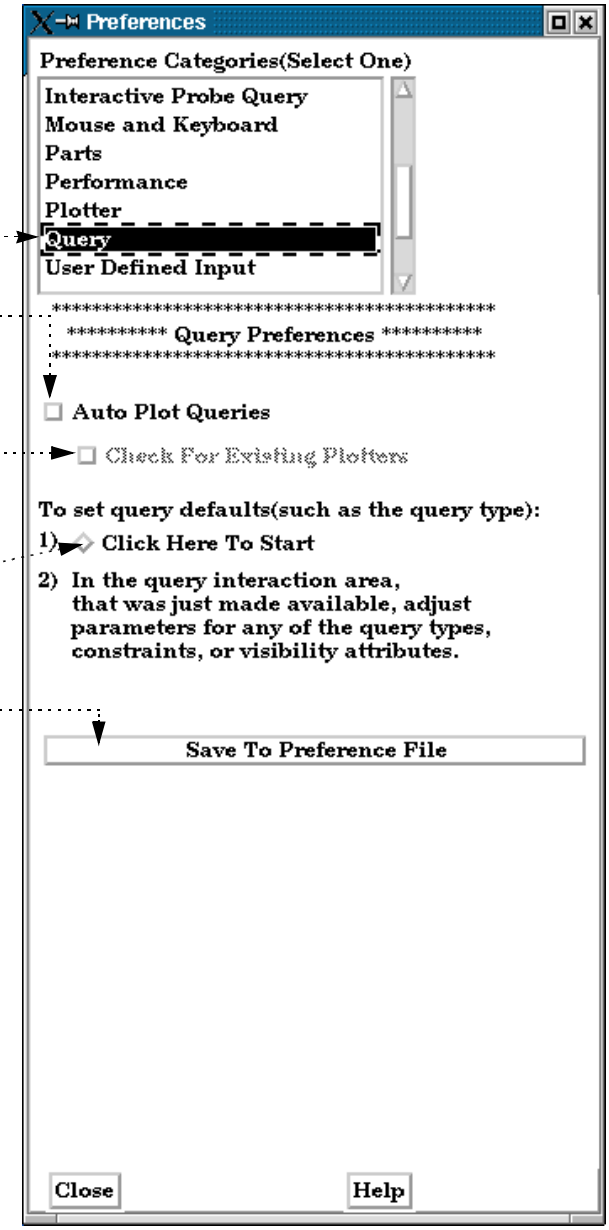
2. Click this toggle on so that once you create a query it will be automatically plotted.

3. If Auto Plot Queries is toggled on, then you have the option to check this toggle. If on and an existing plot uses the same variables, you query will be added to this existing plot. Otherwise an new plot will be created.

4. Click the "Click Here To Start" button. This will bring up the Query quick interaction area with all query items deselected.

5. Set any attribute, for example Distance Type and 30 Samples for the Line tool constraint.

6. Click here to save the preferences.



To Set User Defined Input Preferences:

1. Select User Defined Input from the Preferences Categories list.

2. Turn this on to show the macro panel display

3. Toggle to select the default to display a part list in the graphics window. This is especially helpful in full screen mode or a VR environment.

4. Turn this on to activate the user defined input device (ENSIGHT7_INPUT must be set to the proper device).

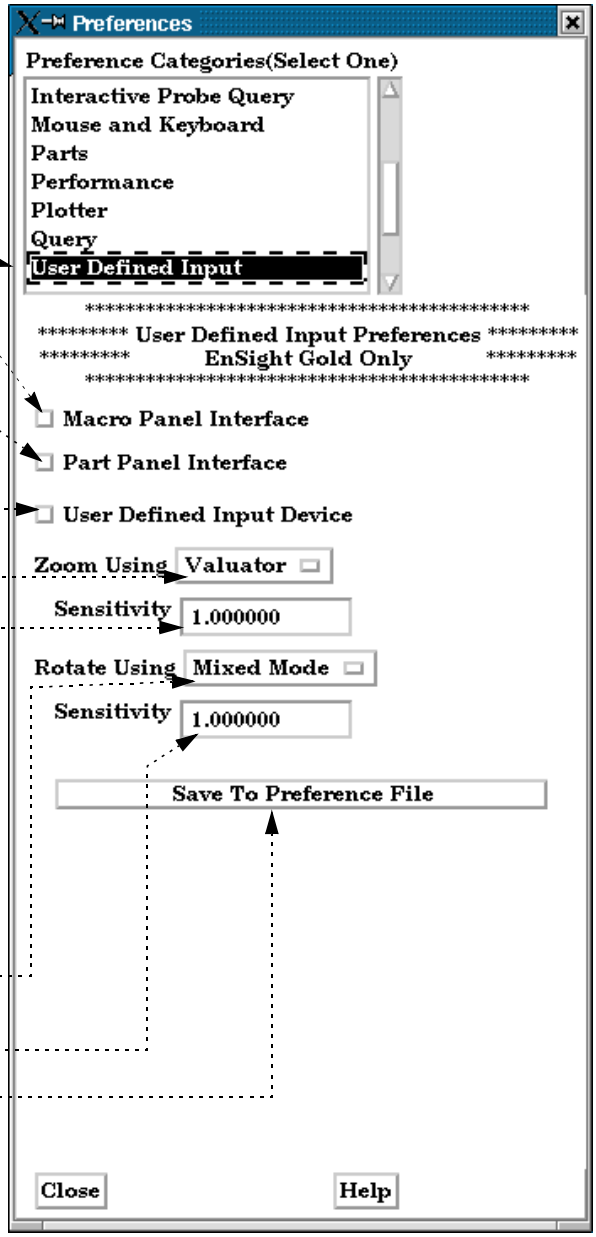
5. A Valuator can be used for zoom operations (like a virtual joy stick), or Position which simply means to delta movement in the Z direction will be used.

6. Sets the sensitivity for the zoom operation. The values for zoom are scaled by this setting, so values larger than 1.0 will make the inputs larger while less than 1.0 will make them smaller.

7. Mixed mode will use the input devices z rotate directly but use x and y translation values for x/y rotations. Direct mode will use the rotation angles from the input device directly for all three axis.

8. Sensitivity will set a scaling factor for the rotation values.

9. Click here to save the preferences.



To Set Variable Preferences:

1. Select Variables from the Preferences Categories list.

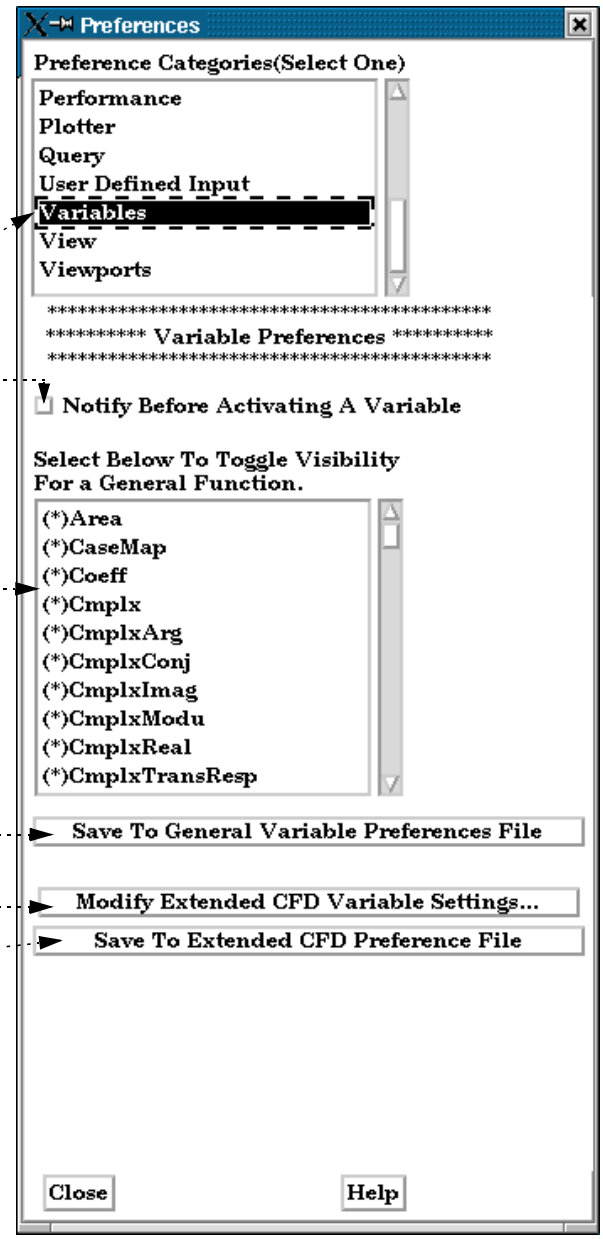
2. Turn this on if you want to be notified before a variable is activated.

3. Toggle to select visibility of functions in the General Functions list of the New Variable Calculator dialog.

4. Save this notification request and function visibilities to the preference file by clicking here.

5. Brings up the dialog for setting extended CFD settings.

Save these settings by clicking here.



To Set View Preferences:

1. Select View from the Preferences Categories list.

2. Turn on if you want the plane tool to be shown as a transparent plane, or off if you want it shown in line drawing mode.

3. There are two offsets employed in EnSight.

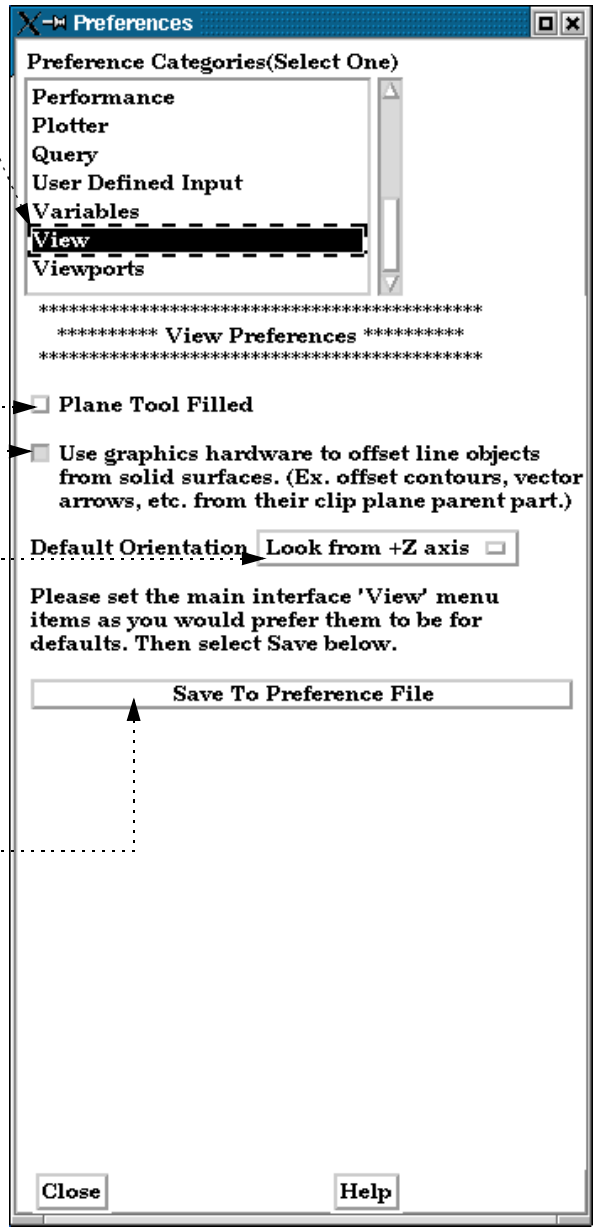
This one, hardware offset, is perpendicular to the monitor screen, and done in hardware if this toggle is on. This will allow, for example contour lines to appear closer to the viewer than their parent part so they are visible no matter what orientation the part is viewed from.

The second offset is the display offset. The display offset can be set in the feature detail editor for line parts such as contour lines, particle trace lines, vector arrows, and separation/attachment lines. The display offset is the distance in the direction of the element normal (perpendicular to the surface).

4. Select the default viewing orientation.

5. Pull down "View" menu and set items desired.

6. Click here to save the preferences.



To Set Viewports Preferences:

1. Select the Viewports Category.

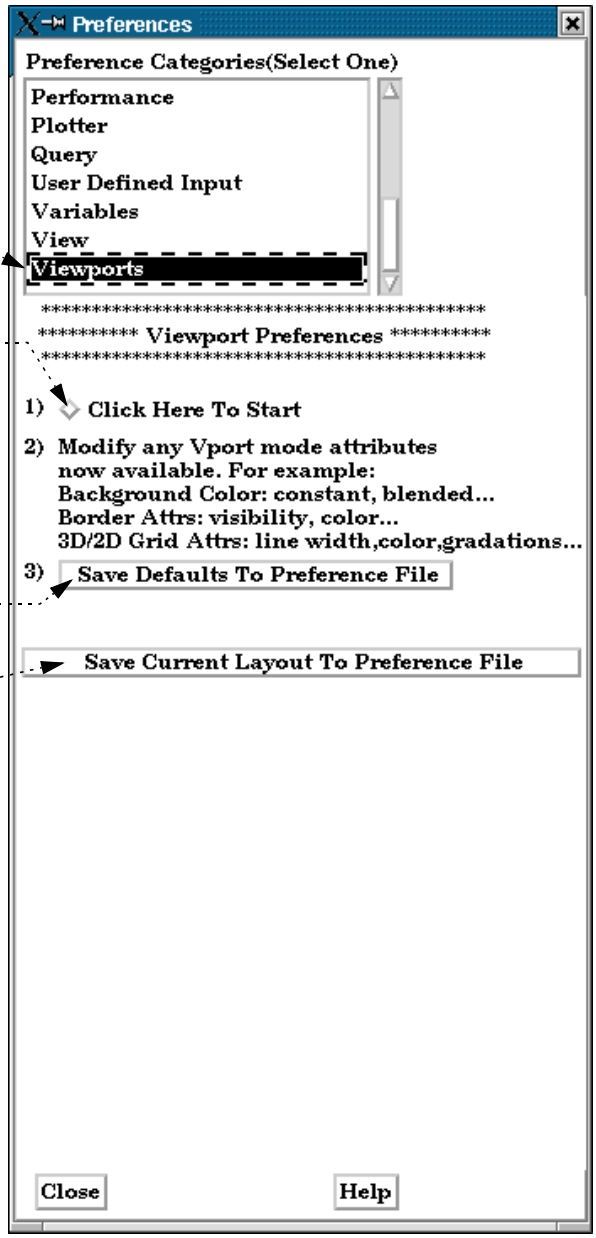
2. Click the Click Here To Start button.

This will bring up the Viewports quick interaction area with all viewport items selected.

3. Set any viewport attributes (for example, background color to blended).

4. Click here to save the attributes set in 2. to the preference file as defaults for future sessions.

5. Click her to save the current viewport layout to the preference file.



SEE ALSO

User Manual: **Edit Menu Functions**